

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the above-identified Office Action. The above listing of the claims supersedes any previous listing. Favorable reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Amendments/Status

In this response, the subject matter of allowable claim 18 has been introduced into claim 8; claim 18 has been cancelled and the dependency of claim 10 has been amended to claim 8. Claim 15 has been rewritten to assume independent form, and new dependent claims 22-25 based on claims 9, 18, 21 and 19 respectively, have been added to claim 17.

Inasmuch as claim 17 is allowed and claims 8 and 15 contain subject matter indicated as being allowable, it is respectfully submitted that all of claims 8-17, and 19-25 stand in allowable form.

Rejections under 35 USC § 102

The rejection of claims 8, 9, 14, 20 and 21 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Watanabe et al. (US 3,963,950), is respectfully traversed. It is submitted that the above-mentioned claim amendments moots this rejection.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,  
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**Date: November 18, 2008**  
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